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AHCA Announces Settlement Agreement in Florida Pediatric Society Case Building On Successful Transition to Managed Care

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Today, Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) Secretary Elizabeth Dudek announced that a Settlement Agreement has been reached with the Florida Pediatric Society and the Florida Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, Inc. The Settlement Agreement comes after a successful transition and implementation of the Statewide Medicaid Managed Care (SMMC) program under Governor Scott, and now all parties will work together to achieve their shared goal of improving access to quality medical and dental services for Medicaid eligible children through continuous improvements to Florida’s Medicaid program.

Secretary Dudek said, “I am happy that we were able to find a very positive resolution for this case and am grateful for all of the hard work that the Agency has put forth in reaching this agreement. Under Governor Scott’s statewide transition to the SMMC program, we are in a new era of working collaboratively with the members of the Florida Pediatric Society and the Florida Academy of Pediatric Dentistry to achieve our mutual goal: achieving the best possible health outcomes for the children served by Florida Medicaid.”

Dr. Tommy Schechtman, president of Florida Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics (FCAAP) said, “This settlement is a significant step forward in improving access to medical care for the two million Florida children on Medicaid. We look forward to this new collaborative relationship with Florida’s state agencies to ensure all Florida children obtain the quality health care they need and deserve.”

Under the SMMC program, most Medicaid services are now delivered statewide through Managed Medical Assistance (MMA) plans. Contracts require the plans to maintain networks of medical and dental providers at levels sufficient to eliminate problems with access to care.



The Agency is making improvements that will have a positive impact on the overall health of children enrolled in the Florida Medicaid program and is committed to improved quality outcomes and higher standards of care. Over the last two years, Florida has seen a 13 percent increase in Medicaid eligible children receiving preventative dental services. In addition, Florida's MMA plans currently exceed the national mean average in eight key outcome measures for medical services provided to Medicaid recipient eligible children.

The Settlement Agreement is available [here](#).

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The Agency for Health Care Administration is committed to better health care for all Floridians. The Agency administers Florida's Medicaid program, licenses and regulates more than 48,500 health care facilities and 43 health plans, and publishes health care data and statistics at www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov. Additional information about Agency initiatives is available via [Facebook \(AHCAFlorida\)](#), [Twitter \(@AHCA_FL\)](#) and [YouTube \(/AHCAFlorida\)](#).